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To: Honorable Commissioner of Patents **From:** Abdul-Karim Lakhani

Fax 703-672-9306 **Pages:** 14 13

Phone: **Date:** February 23, 2005

Re: Response to Patent Application Number 09/541,187

☐ Urgent ☐ For Review ☐ Please Comment ☐ Please Reply ☐ Please Recycle

• **Comments:**

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Application of Abdul-Karim Lakhani

Serial No: 09/541,187

Filed: 04/03/2000

For: Two-Way Cable System With Noise Free Return Path

Art Unit: 2611

Examiner: Usha Raman

Confirmation No: 4916

Attached please find the following:

- 1) This cover sheet (1 Page)
- 2) Summary of the Conference call held on February 16, 2005 at 4:00PM EST. (5 pages)
- 3) List of Claims (7 Pages)

Thanks,

Abdul-Karim Lakhani

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of Abdul-Karim Lakhani

Serial No.: 09/541,187

Filed: Two-Way Cable System with Noise-Free Return Path

Examiner: Usha Raman

Art Unit: 2616

Conf No: 4916

I certify that this correspondence is being sent by
facsimile to number 703-872-9306 on February 23, 2005


Abdul-Karim Lakhani

Honorable Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

RE: Summary of the conference call held on February 16, 2005 at 4:00 PM EST.

Attendants:

Usha Raman (Examiner)
Andrew Faile (Examiner's Supervisor)
Herbert M Shapiro (Patent Attorney)
Abdul-Karim Lakhani (Applicant)

Applicant is appreciative of the courtesies extended by examiner and her supervisor in the conference call of February 16, 2005 in the above captioned patent application.

During the call, applicant pointed out that any device connected to a drop cable line introduces ingress noise into the feeder line and the ingress noise contaminates any signal in the low frequency range, which is transmitted on the line regardless of origin. Thus, in Bodeep any signal generated at a feeder line end in the low frequency band requires an electrical-isolated return path. The feeder line could not be used due to ingress noise contamination.

Applicant's invention also requires an apparatus at the end of a feeder line to convert the high frequency signals from a two-way device (set-top box) but also requires

a high pass filter in each of the drop cable (at the tap), which is connected to the feeder line via a tap. In the absence of the high pass filters, the feeder line could not be used as a return path without ingress noise contamination.

It was discussed and agreed during the conference call that the remaining cited art failed to even suggest applicant's use of the feeder line and the presence of the high pass filters in the drop cables connected via taps to permit such usage.

It was also discussed and agreed that language would be added to applicant's independent claims to clarify the language there to emphasize that the high pass filter is located in the drop cable (at the tap). Thus, the terminal language in, for example, Independent Claim 1 is being changed herein from: -- wherein the connection between each said two-way communication device and said feeder line also includes a high pass filter -- To: -- wherein the said drop cable at each of said taps also includes a high pass filter --.

The connection between the devices in the subscriber's premise and the tap to which it is connected is commonly referred to as a drop cable.

Applicant also is amending independent claims 9, 13 and 21 similarly to emphasis that the high pass filter is located in the drop cable in each instance.

Applicant respectfully submits that the amendment of the claims herein is in compliance with the agreement reached in the conference call of February 16, 2005. Accordingly, applicant further submits that the application is in condition for allowance and urges that the necessary action be taken to allow the claims (as amended) and the application and to pass the application to issue.


Abdul-Karim Lakhani